ű ( OCT 1 5 2003 TRADE In re the Application of:

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 2502

SAMAL, et al.

Art Unit:

1648

Application No.: 09/926,431

Filed: October 31, 2001

Attorney —

For: PRODUCTION OF NOVEL NEWCASTLE DISEASE VIRUS STRAINS
FROM cDNAs AND IMPROVED LIVE ATTENUATED NEWCASTLE DISEASE
VACCINES

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 15, 2003, Applicants hereby elect with traverse to prosecute the subject matter in claims 1-7, 19 and 26-27 of Group I, drawn to a Newcastle disease vaccine comprising a Newcastle Disease Virus Z.

This election is made with traverse because there would be no undue burden to examine claims 1-25 on the merits. In particular, applicants request rejoinder of Group I and VI because the Newcastle Disease Virus Z of Group I can be prepared with the method of claims 13-18 of Group VI.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims.

In the event that this paper is deemed not timely, applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing the docket number of 108172-00070.

Respectfully submitted,

ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC

King L. Wong King L. Wong

Reg. No. 37,500

Customer No. 004372

1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20036-5339

Tel: (202) 857-6435 Fax: (202) 638-4810

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